

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A connector comprising

a central contact (1),

an insulating housing (3) having a contact inserting hole (31) for press-fit therein of the central contact (1), and

an external contact (5) adapted to engage with the insulating housing (3) by insertion therein of the insulating housing (3) with the central contact (1) press-fitted therein,

the insulating housing (3) being formed in a generally cylindrical shape, characterized in that

an engaging hole is formed in a side wall of the central contact (1),

a cantilevered retaining beam is formed on a side wall of the insulating housing (3), said retaining beam being pressed by the external contact (5) and moving toward the contact inserting hole (31) upon insertion of the insulating housing (3) into the external contact (5), and

a retaining pawl is formed in part of said retaining beam so as to engage with said engaging hole upon movement of the retaining beam toward the contact inserting hole (31);

wherein

said engaging hole comprises a pair of engaging holes (15, 15) formed in opposed side wall portions of the central contact (1),

said retaining beam comprises a pair of retaining beams (35, 35) formed on opposed side wall portions of the insulating housing (3), and

said retaining pawl comprises a pair of retaining pawls (37, 37) projecting from front ends of the retaining beams (35, 35) toward the contact inserting hole (31).

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A connector according to ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein
an elongated engaging rib (34) of a rectangular parallelepiped shape is projected from an inner wall surface of the contact inserting hole (31) along a central axis of the contact insertion hole, said inner wall surface being positioned nearly equidistantly from the pair of retaining beams (35, 35),
an engaging notch (16) is formed on a base end side of the central contact (1), the engaging notch (16) coming into engagement with the engaging rib (34) when the central contact (1) is press-fitted into the contact inserting hole (31), and
retaining projections (17, 17) are formed on opposed inside edge portions of the engaging notch (16), the retaining projections (17, 17) being adapted to bite into engagement with the engaging rib (34) upon press-fit of the central contact (1) into the contact inserting hole (31).

4. (Original) A connector according to claim 1, wherein
a pair of engaging lances (62, 62) are formed by cutting opposed side wall portions of the external contact (5) and raising the cut portions, and
a pair of engaging stepped portions (44, 44) are formed on the side wall of the insulating housing (3), the pair of engaging stepped portions (44, 44) coming into engagement with the engaging lances (62, 62) when the insulating housing (3) is inserted into the external contact (5).

5. (Currently Amended) A connector according to ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein
a pair of engaging lances (62, 62) are formed by cutting opposed side wall portions of the
external contact (5) and raising the cut portions, and
a pair of engaging stepped portions (44, 44) are formed on the side wall of the insulating
housing (3), the pair of engaging stepped portions (44, 44) coming into engagement with the
engaging lances (62, 62) when the insulating housing (3) is inserted into the external contact (5).

6. (Original) A connector according to claim 3, wherein
a pair of engaging lances (62, 62) are formed by cutting opposed side wall portions of the
external contact (5) and raising the cut portions, and
a pair of engaging stepped portions (44, 44) are formed on the side wall of the insulating
housing (3), the pair of engaging stepped portions (44, 44) coming into engagement with the
engaging lances (62, 62) when the insulating housing (3) is inserted into the external contact (5).